

ernment; how they are operated and how effectively they deal with the industrial problems presented; and (4) the courts and the law, and their relations to labor disputes, free speech, injunctions, etc.

Although the work is scarcely begun, it seems certain that the commission will recommend the creation of a national board of mediation and conciliation to deal with all strikes and lockouts anywhere in the United States which seem likely to involve the federal government.

When it finds out, as it will, that \$6 a week is too little to enable a girl to exist upon in decency, it will recommend as a remedy that the community get in the habit of regarding as "not respectable" an employer who pays such wages.

The job which the commission sees before it, above all others, is education of the public by making facts known, so that the public shall demand better things for its workers, and shall make it unpleasant for employers who refuse such demand.

#### COUNCIL TO PROBE CRIME

On a motion of Ald. Chas. E. Merriam last night the City Council voted for an extensive investigation into the increase of crime. After the motion was passed the mayor appointed a committee of five aldermen to make the investigation. Merriam was named as chairman.

Merriam said there had been 140 murders in the last four years, together with 1,200 burglaries, 4,000 larcenies and 2,000 assaults. While the motion was before the council last night several people were shot and wounded.

#### MAYOR READS REPORT

Mayor Harrison made his annual report to the city council last night. Most of it was a review of the various departments. He also sounded a warning to be on the lookout against any attempt to grab the city's \$13,000,000 traction fund.

#### TELLS OF TERRIBLE TIME AT SEA IN OPEN BOAT

Halifax, N. S., May 19.—Pitifully emaciated, with his feet so badly frozen that they have to be amputated, First Officer Tiers, one of the four men rescued after fourteen days at sea in an open boat, gave further details of the horrors suffered by the men who escaped from the burning steamer Columbian.

Tiers said that nearly all of the eleven shipmates who died in the open boat became insane in their last agonies.

One of the most heart-rending experiences of the terrible days afloat was when the weakened survivors saw at least three liners nearby and were unable to attract their attention.

"Our matches had been dampened and were useless so we could fire no rockets," Tiers said. "I think one vessel was the Olympic. The next day we sighted a tramp steamer and another liner. We shouted, but our voices did not carry and they sped out of sight."

#### 45,000 MINERS STRIKE

Columbus, O., May 19.—Officials of the Ohio mine workers here today sent out circular letters to the 45,000 miners of the state notifying them that they are now on strike and will draw strike benefits from May 2. The sum of \$6, or \$3 a week, will be paid each miner some time during the week.

The district executive decided to sign contracts with individual operators willing to pay the scale demanded by the miners.

#### PLITT JOLTS BECKER DEFENSE

New York, May 19.—The prosecution closed its case yesterday against ex-Police Lieut. Charles Becker after Charles B. Plitt, who had testified for Becker in the first trial against him, Plitt's testimony yesterday was staggering to the defense.